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several years using the system that we use now, using the District Judges if you have too, but I think as Senator Cavanaugh has pointed out to the body in his argument of this bill, that you will have less use of the District Judges if you would....if the people would adopt this amendment. Then they could sit in three divisions and they could utilize better the use of the District Judges and could use more Supreme Court judges and I want to stress the fact that the study by the Judiciary Committee, by Mr. Goc, was a matter of....the conclusion was that there had to be a little different handling of the intermediate appellate which is now sitting in divisions with the District Judges and that is what this would allow us to do. Now, Senator Barnett speaks about crime...the criminal cases decreasing. This is simply not true. A report to Senator Cavanaugh by James Dunlevy by the date of January 14th, says just the opposite and these are the figures that were given to the committee. The greatest increase, and I'm quoting from the report, "The greatest increase has been in criminal cases, reflecting the rising crime rate and increase in arrests and prosecutions. We find no indication that a reduction in criminal cases is likely. In fact the reverse is true. In the 1974-75 fiscal year, the number of felony cases filed in the county courts increased 27%. When you increase the criminal case activity on the county and district court level you are bound to have an increase in the number of appeals to the Supreme Court. I remind you also that the cases being heard by the Court of Industrial Relations are drastically increasing and these have a direct appeal to the Supreme Court. The problem is not in the hearing of these cases, as I indicated in the first debate of this bill, the problem is getting the sufficient time of the Judge himself or herself to write the opinions which go into the permanent law books of this state. If we have this need increasing then this body should do something about it. We can't do anything about it unless we allow the voters to vote on this proposition. So, give the voters a chance to vote on it. Senator Barnett is wrong, the Journal Editorial is wrong, we would be right by putting it on the ballot.

PRESIDENT: Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Most of the arguments that I could have given have already been given. Being chairman of the committee that heard this bill, the committee felt that it was justifiable to let the people have the opportunity to vote. What I want to touch on is the fact that Nebraska is one of several states that lacks an appellate court. That is our cases go from the District Court to the Supreme Court. In many states they go from the District Court to Appellate Court and then to the State Supreme Court. Due to that factor, Nebraska is...with seven judges is a little bit different than some of these states that do have seven judges alright, but they have the other court to ease the work load. Some states have as high as twelve Supreme Court judges. I think that the people have the right to vote on this situation and as you know how I have been on lawyers and courts in this Legislature, this is one time, and I want the lawyers to notice and the judges to notice that I am on their